

REMARKS

Claims 6-10 are pending in the application.

Applicants appreciate the courtesy of a telephone interview granted by the Examiner on September 18, 2007. During the interview, the Takahashi et al. reference and claims 6 and 7 were discussed. The Examiner tentatively agreed that the claimed invention is distinguishable over U.S. Patent No. 4,644,587 to Takahashi et al., thus overcoming the 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection based on that reference.

Claims 6-10 were rejected in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Takahashi et al. In view of the arguments presented during the telephone interview, applicants respectfully submit that the cited reference does not describe or suggest elements recited in claims 6 and 7, such as generating an error signal when the value of an electrical signal is less than a predetermined or base value. Claims 6 and 7 are thus submitted to be allowable. Claims 8-10 depend from allowable claims, and at least for that reason are also submitted to be allowable.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #080437.49163).

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Respectfully submitted,



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